

BANKERS AND BROKERS.

BARING, MAGOUN & CO.
15 Wall Street, New York.

Foreign Exchange,
Letters of Credit,
Investment Securities

English Consols Bought and Sold

Agents and Attorneys for
BARING BROTHERS & CO., Ltd., London.
KIDDER, PEARSON & CO., Boston

DEWING, RUGGLES & Co.
MEMBERS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE
36 WALL STREET
NEW YORK

Deposits Received Subject to Draft.
Interest Allowed on Daily Balances.

COMMISSION ORDERS EXECUTED.

JOHN MUNROE & Co.
30 Pine St., 4 Post Office Sq.,
NEW YORK. BOSTON.

LETTERS OF CREDIT.
In Sterling, France and Dollars.

COMMERCIAL LETTERS OF CREDIT.
BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND
CABLE TRANSFERS.

MUNROE & CO.,
7 RUE SCHIE, PARIS.

Edw. H. Munroe, Pres. & Genl. Mgr. Wm. L. McCle, Jr.

Plympton, Gardiner & Co.

BANKERS.

Members New York Stock Exchange.

Bonds and Guaranteed Stocks of the
Highest Character, Suitable for
Banks, Institutions, Trustees, Firms
and Individuals, constantly on hand.

LIST ON APPLICATION.

27 William St., Cor. 232 La Salle St.,
Exchange Place, N.Y. Chicago.

ESTABLISHED 1852.

Vermilye & Co.
BANKERS.

U.S. GOVERNMENT BONDS

and other

Investment Securities.

NEW YORK. BOSTON.

BALTIMORE.

Chas. D. Barney, Jay Cooke, 3d

J. Horace Harding, Chas. S. Phillips

Chas. D. Barney & Co.

BANKERS AND BROKERS

25 Broad Street

NEW YORK

122 South Fourth Street

PHILADELPHIA

N. W. HARRIS & CO.

BANKERS

Pine Street, Corner William

Chicago NEW YORK Boston

Receive deposits subject to check
and allow interest on balances.
Act as fiscal agents for municipal
authorities and corporations. Issue
letters of credit and deal in

BONDS FOR INVESTMENT

LIST ON APPLICATION

Henry Clews & Co.,

BANKERS.

11, 13, 15 AND 17 BROAD ST.

Members of the N. Y. Stock Exchange.

Orders executed for investment or on margin.
Interest allowed on deposits, subject to check.
Financial Agents for Corporations and In-
dividuals. Government and other High-Grade Bonds
bought and sold.

Letters of Credit.

Issued available the world over.

N. W. HALSEY & CO.

BANKERS.

Bonds for Investment.

Interest Allowed on Deposit Accounts.

Fiscal Agents for Cities and Corporations.

49 WALL ST., NEW YORK.

Philadelphia Chicago San Francisco

KOUNTZE BROTHERS,

BANKERS,

Broadway & Cedar St.

NEW YORK

Investment Securities.

Allow interest on deposits; make
cable and telegraphic transfers.
Buy and sell Foreign Exchange.

Letters of Credit.

BONDS.

'NEW YORK CENTRAL

4s.

PARTICULARS UPON APPLICATION.

Farson, Leach & Co.,

86 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

So far as the stock market itself was concerned, the developments of most interest last week were the greater degree of firmness in rates for the use of call money, the lessened activity of the bond market, the evidences of a relative concentration of the movement for the rise in prices in the fore part of the week and the rather general declining tendency at the close. Pertaining to general business affairs, there was no break in the buoyant and optimistic reports that have been so long received. With the exception of heavy rains in certain portions of the West and Southwest, which caused floods in Southern California, the weather everywhere was mild and wholly favorable to business and agricultural operations, so that railroad earnings for the first part of the month made almost universally gratifying comparisons with those of February. The outlook for the spring trade continues promising, and merchants say that present stocks of goods on their shelves are not large. The iron and steel trade keeps at work on a high level, which bids fair to push the year's record thereof to a new maximum. We are coming to a time when the state of the crops will rank among the chief influences affecting values, and while it is too soon to speak definitely about the winter wheat crop, all that has been made known thus far in regard to it is unwelcome to encouraging. Matters like these, however, do not solely determine the market prices of securities, and therefore Wall Street was more interested last week in the appearance of certain new features in the strictly speculative situation than in the continuance of the monotonous even if splendid stories of prosperity from the country at large. It has been noted that money rates have become somewhat firmer. This remark does not apply to time money rates, although, of course, if call money should become very strong, time money would follow it in due time. As to what call money has hardened, it is only necessary to glance at the present figures of the surplus reserve of our local clearing house banks and to remember that this is a time of year when in the past interior institutions have not only drawn down their balances here, but have even asked for loans of money for the purpose of accommodating the financial needs of the farmers in the spring planting season. Banks at this center are plainly in no such position to withstand this customary drain as they were at the same time last year or as they ordinarily have been in the month of March, even allowing for the wealth of the West and the probability that requirements of the Western banks this spring will not be as large as they have been in former seasons. In the corresponding month last year Stock Exchange transactions were almost at their minimum in this general section. This year, during the usually dull and stagnant months in the year's first quarter, the greatest speculation in the history of the Stock Exchange has been in progress, which has expanded loans on speculative collateral to an unprecedented total and elevated security prices to a level that represents a gross valuation of property hundreds of millions of dollars greater than was the case a twelve-month ago. Our bankers, in addition, have subscribed freely to foreign loans of all sorts, which, combined with the falling off in our exports and the huge increase in our imports—our foreign trade balance having decreased \$112,000,000 during the first eight months of the year—have caused us to export gold in large quantities so that our supplies of cash have been cut down. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that the first of April should bring at least the accustomed rise in money rates; and if there are speculators who have been so familiarized to the use of 2 per cent. money that they cannot conceive how a higher rate should prevail for a little time and find that this fact spells danger for them, they are sincerely to be pitied.

The most important consideration of the moment is how high these rates are likely to go, say, the next month or six weeks, or until the normal time for the beginning of the return movement of money from the Western farms. At 3½ or 4 per cent. the trust companies, private institutions and other non-reserve keeping lenders are naturally putting out money freely, and this will serve to reduce national bank loans and ease the situation. The rise in the value of money, too, will weaken sterling exchange, as it already has done, and bring offerings here of European funds. Yet our best bankers at the close of last week were inclined to raise their previous estimates of the point that money rates would probably touch in the near future, and the length of time this rate would hold. Four per cent. two weeks ago was the limit prophesied by these gentlemen. Six per cent. was the figure named by them at the end of last week—showing how quickly these matters change, and suggesting whether an even higher rate may not eventually be named or reached. There is, of course, nothing in the rate that has been proposed to disturb any business man, or anything about it that can be called abnormal or strained, or as partaking in any way of money stringency. The only question is, whether such a rate would appreciably affect the stock market for technical speculative reasons, and of this every man interested must judge for himself. The problem is complicated, not only by the movement of money to the West, by the Japanese borrowings, but by the impending, by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's forthcoming bond issue of \$100,000,000 and by the numerous demands upon our money market by various large corporations that are known to be near at hand. Having direct bearing on this matter also is the large "carrying over" of cotton into the next season, which our Southern planters have manifestly undertaken. The worthy calculations as to the volume of cotton thus held for higher prices put the quantity at 1,000,000 bales, and these estimates are also to the effect that \$40,000,000 must be borrowed in order to facilitate the transaction. A certain quantity of cotton is invariably carried in this way from one year to another, but such an amount as stated has never been held over before and clearly lays an additional burden temporarily upon the Southern bankers and the Northern banks also from which the Southern institutions borrow money. The slowing down of the bond market, to which reference has been made, has been unquestionably caused by the operation of these factors. There is distinctly less pressure for the investment of money. In view of the prospects that money can be lent currently at remunerative rates of interest, the bond dealers and others are tempted to shade prices for the investment securities they now own in order to obtain cash which they will offer to borrowers in the open market. There is no doubt that the high prices that have been obtained for all grades of stocks and bonds have tempted many long time holders of these securities to sell them. Instances might be mentioned of institutions "selling" in the market in the last fortnight, and some of the recent bond issues have sold in the curb market since the time of issue at less than the subscription price. The bond market is, however, still strong and active, and there

is no question that a new offering at a fair price of any high grade investment security, provided its amount were not too large, would be snapped up at present with as great rapidity as at any time in the last six months.

By the concentration of Stock Exchange business is meant the fact that a disproportionate amount of the dealings on the floor of the Stock Exchange has been recently for the account of a relatively small number of firms, which would indicate either that the market was one in which great capitalists and corporation plans were outworking or that speculation had become of unusually professional and daring character. It is fair to say that according to common observation general commission house business last week decreased and that the "public" attitude toward the market seemed to be one of growing indifference. Few people expressed thought to the market or declared that they thought a fall in prices was near, or avowed that their minds were possessed of substantial reasons why prices should fall at all. Indeed, the most frequent comment heard was that prices seemed likely to hold their present level for an indefinite period. Nevertheless, buying orders from outsiders fell off and the stock market tended to become narrower. There were critics who maintained that such movements as took place in the Ontario and Western, Chesapeake and Ohio and American Smelting and Refining shares, and to a certain extent in the Vanderbilt and other stocks, exercised an adverse influence upon the market as a whole. They pointed out that the ordinary operator in the market was utterly at a loss to understand why these stocks should sell as high as they did, and that his conclusion would be apt to be, not that the rise in the stocks was unwarranted, but that he had better keep out of a market he did not understand. It should be said that the best opinion in Wall Street is that there is some other reason than that of mere speculation for the rise in the Vanderbilt issue, and that it is not unlikely that the long talked of "holding company" for the Vanderbilt properties is in process of creation. There are obviously ever before, perhaps to the Vanderbilt interests, why some such arrangement as this should be consummated. At the same time the story is an old one, and at least twice before speculation in Wall Street has committed itself to it with disastrous results. The formation of such a holding company could hardly be made without emphasizing the new alliances and communities of interest that the Vanderbilt system has made; and common sense would indicate that such a development should be postponed until after Mr. Roosevelt's extra session of Congress in the fall, called to consider the railroad freight rate situation, winds up its business. Finally, as a general proposition, there is no doubt that there has been more talk in Wall Street in the last two months of deals, mergers and similar operations than has been justified by the facts.

There has been a great deal of talk also, of course, about the Russian situation, but so far as can be seen it has influenced our market but little. The only way in which this matter affects us at present is as it provokes buying or selling for Paris account in London, and so, by stimulating or depressing the London market, is felt here in purchases or sales of our stocks. There is immense disgust the world over at the suicidal obstinacy of the Russian Government in continuing the struggle with Japan when the struggle has become hopeless, and the czar has morally at least renounced the punishment, according to the rules of warfare, of the commander who holds unduly an indefensible fortress. The feeling of this sort is naturally strongest in Paris, where so much money has been sunk in Russian enterprises. The European nations, even including England, would probably still be willing to lend Russia large sums for the purpose of internal improvements and for restoring her army and navy to a state of peace, but none of them even France, is willing to lend Russia any more money to be thrown away in a useless war. From what we now read, Russia seems determined to go on destroying her wealth and the lives of her people, raising funds by internal loans and otherwise drawing upon her reserves of every form of capital. One view taken of this is that if such a programme is adopted it will mean expropriation of gold from Russia and her cheaper money in Europe as well as an attempt to certain forms of European business. But Russia hardly seems in a position to export gold without injuring her credit and increasing her financial disorders. It is a confused and tragic situation, of whose ending, except in regard to the contest with Japan, no man can foresee more than was said of a conflict of like character twenty-five hundred years ago:

The soul of Greece conquers the bulk of Persia.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

RAILROAD AND OTHER BONDS.

High-Low-Close-Open.

Sales.

Adams Ex. Co. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

Am. & N. E. 100 100 100 100

TRUST COMPANIES.

THE TRUST CO. OF AMERICA,

149 Broadway, New York.

CORNER LIBERTY STREET.

CAPITAL \$1,000,000.00

SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS \$3,343,802.81

Allows Interest on Daily Balances subject to check and on Certificates of Deposit.

Acts as Trustee, Receiver, Committee, Executor, Guardian, Administrator, Assignee, Registrar, Transfer and Fiscal Agent.

OFFICERS:

EMERSON McWILLIN, Vice-President.

RAYMOND J. CHATRY, Secretary.

WILLIAM H. LEVY, President.

JAMES H. KIRBY, Vice-President.

ALBERT L. HANISTER, Treasurer.

DIRECTORS:

Chas. T. Barney, S. C. T. Dodd, H. B. Holms, Edward C. Schaefer.

Albert L. Hanister, James M. Donald, C. I. Hudson, Henry F. Shoemaker.

James Campbell, Amos P. Fitch, Jr., James S. Ruhn, Samuel Spencer.

Wm. A. Clark, John W. Ogden, William H. Leupp, Oakleigh Thorne.

William H. Cheever, John R. Heenan, Ermer on McWilla, P. A. B. Widen-r.

Raymond J. Chatry, Myron T. Herick, Henry S. Redmond, B. F. Yeakum.

Central Realty and Trust Company

Chamber of Commerce Building

50-52 LIBERTY ST., NEW YORK.

Capital \$1,000,000.00

Surplus \$8,008,272.48

Allows interest on deposits subject to check and transacts all Trust Company business.

HENRY MORGENTHAU, President.

HUGH J. GRANT, T. STALLING, Vice-President.

W. J. B. HILLS, ERNEST BERNARD, Secretary.

DIRECTORS:

Frederic P. Olcott, Frederic Cromwell, G. G. Haven, E. W. Coggeshall.

James Stillman, Anthony N. Brady, Michael Coleman, Ernest Elmsworth.

James N. Jarvis, T. Stallings, W. J. B. Hills, H. J. Grant.

Augustus D. Juilliard, Henry Morgenthau.

Bowling Green Trust Co.

26 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

Capital \$2,500,000. Surplus \$2,500,000

OFFICERS:

EDWIN GOULD, President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 1st Vice-President.

CHAS. F. ARMSTRONG, 2d Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 3d Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 4th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 5th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 6th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 7th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 8th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 9th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 10th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 11th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 12th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 13th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 14th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 15th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 16th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 17th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 18th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 19th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 20th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 21st Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 22nd Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 23rd Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 24th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 25th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 26th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 27th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 28th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 29th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 30th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 31st Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 32nd Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 33rd Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 34th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 35th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 36th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 37th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 38th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 39th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 40th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 41st Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 42nd Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 43rd Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 44th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 45th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 46th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 47th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 48th Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, 49th Vice-President.</